UNITED
NATIONS

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Secretariat

ST/IC/1991/67
25 November 1991

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management

Subject: HOST COUNTRY TRAVEL REGULATIONS*

1. The Secretary-General has received from the United States Mission to the United Nations a note verbale dated 13 November 1991 advising on changes in procedural requirements for private travel in the United States undertaken by staff members of Albanian nationality and their dependants.

2. According to the note, the persons concerned, effective immediately, "will enjoy unrestricted travel within the United States".

3. The Secretary-General, in his reply of 19 November 1991, welcomed this decision by the host country. However, in view of the fact that similar restrictions still remain in force with respect to staff of certain other nationalities, the Secretary-General reiterated his position of principle concerning discriminatory treatment, by the host country, of members of the Secretariat solely on the basis of their nationality. The hope was expressed that all such previously imposed restrictions will be removed as soon as possible.

4. Copies of the two notes verbales are set out in annexes I and II to the present circular.

5. The existing arrangements for official travel will remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner.

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* Personnel Manual index No. 13019/E.

Annex I

NOTE VERBALE DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1991 FROM THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Effective immediately all Albanian employees of the United Nations and their dependants will enjoy unrestricted travel within the United States. In practice, this means that these individuals will no longer be required to obtain hotel or campground accommodations, air, train or bus tickets or car rentals from the Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) for travel in the United States. Furthermore, these individuals will no longer have to notify the United States Mission in writing of any travel beyond the 25-mile radius of Columbus Circle in New York City.

Annex II

NOTE VERBALE DATED 19 NOVEMBER 1991 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

It is noted that "effective immediately all Albanian employees of the United Nations and their dependants will enjoy unrestricted travel within the United States".

Although currently there are no Albanian nationals working at the United Nations Secretariat, the Secretary-General nevertheless welcomes this decision by the United States which is further evidence of its desire to resolve the problem of travel restrictions imposed on staff members of certain nationalities.

In this connection the Secretary-General is obliged to reiterate his well-known position of principle concerning the discriminatory treatment of United Nations staff solely on the basis of their nationality and express their hope that the restrictions on the remaining nationalities will be lifted as soon as possible.

The existing arrangements regarding official travel in the United States of United Nations personnel remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner.